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REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on Bauxite and
Aluminum Industries in Hungary

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INFORMATION TO ANY PERSON OR PERSONS IS PROHIBITED.

1. At a special meeting of Russian experts held a short time ago (sic) the bauxite and aluminum industries in Hungary were discussed. It is understood that as a result of this meeting the National Planning Office has been ordered to place these industries second in priority. The first priority is the Dunapentele Iron and Steel Works. The degree of priority given to an industry or a project is the factor which governs the allocation of materials in short supply. This stepping up to second priority is considered an important decision by officials of the Hungarian-Soviet Bauxite and Aluminum Company - Mszobal.
2. There is to be an intensified drive to increase the production of the Hungarian bauxite mines. During the week of 2nd to 7th September, 600 new workers were to be drafted to the bauxite mines at Gant. Spare mattresses held at the bauxite mines at Halimba had to be sent to Gant for these new workers.
3. Work at the new bauxite mine at Halimba, which was to have started by the end of August, has not yet begun. This has been caused by lack of timber needed to complete the accommodations for the workmen at this new mine.
4. [redacted] the two major bottle-necks in the bauxite and aluminum industries are the lack of electrical generators and shortage of timber.
5. Many of the new buildings under construction at Ajka, Gant and Halimba have been left half-finished because of the lack of timber.
6. It has been planned on paper to increase by a third the production of the Aluminum Factory at Ajka by the end of 1951. Responsible officials know that this target is impossible because of the limited supply of electrical power produced by the Ajka power station. Means of increasing the electrical power supply which would be needed are simply not available.
7. The following is an illustration of the delay caused by the bureaucratic methods of government departments. Because of the shortage of timber, the new workers' houses at Halimba are unfinished. It was decided to try to procure reeds as a substitute for timber (presumably required for plastering) in order to finish the building operations. An employee from the Halimba mines went to lake Velencei to a contractor, and found that reeds were available but a permit was required before they could be supplied. The employee then went to Budapest and had to see

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16 different officials in various Government departments, including the Ministry of Building and the Ministry of Mines and Energy, before he obtained a permit for the reeds. Finally, this permit was not considered in order by the contractor. The contractor, however, agreed to supply the reeds to Malimba because he was a personal friend of the employee from the Malimba mines.

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